

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of the Claims.

Claims 4-6, 8-13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 22-25, and 27-33 are pending. Claims 4-6, 8-13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 22-25, and 31-33 stand allowed. Claims 27-30 stand rejected as allegedly not supported by the specification. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowable subject matter and respond to the rejection of claims 27-30 below.

Status of the Specification

Amendment D to the specification of Paper 10 and Amendment D to the specification of Paper 17 stand objected to. In an attempt to avoid confusion and fully satisfy the Examiner's concerns as clarified in a telephone conversation on October 31, 2003, Applicants have herein canceled both Amendment D of Paper 10 and Amendment D of Paper 17 in favor of the present Amendment A of this paper.

In a telephone conversation on October 31, 2003, the Examiner pointed out that the description of the figures A1 through A6 was found in Appendix A and not in the Brief Description of the Drawings and requested correction.

Status of the Drawings

In a telephone conversation on October 31, 2003, the Examiner requested that the figures needed to be more consistently numbered and that the figures setting forth the photographs (Figs A1 through A6) should be numbered consecutively and follow original Figs. 1 and 2.

Support for the Amendments to the Specification

The subject matter of Amendment A is supported by the first paragraph of the Summary as originally filed (see the specification at p.4). Amendment A differs only in setting

forth the term "LASERSKINTM artificial skin" for the term "laserskin." Amendment A of this paper comports with previous amendments to correct trademark usage and adds no new matter.

The subject matter of Amendment B of this paper is supported by Appendix A of the specification as filed. Appendix A sets forth legends for Figures A1 through A6. The Appendix A legends for Figures A1 -A6 correspond in order to the description in Amendment B of Figures 3 through 8.

Applicants therefore believe that the proposed amendments to the claims add no new matter and respectfully request their entry.

Support for the Amendments to the Drawings

The Amendments to the Drawings do not make substantive changes. The amendments merely correct the numbering of the Drawings as requested by the Examiner.

Applicants therefore believe that the proposed amendments to the claims add no new matter and respectfully request their entry.

Response to the Rejection of Claims 27-30 for an alleged lack of Support.

The Examiner could not find support for the subject matter of holes capable of draining exudate in Figure 1A. Applicants had meant to say that support could be found in Figure A1 (now renumbered as Fig. 3). Support for the recital of "capable of draining exudate" is found in the Brief Description of Figure 3 as amended and in Appendix A's original description of the corresponding Figure A1. Applicants apologize for the inconvenience presented by the confusing figure labels.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the recital of claims 27-30 which recite "wherein the membrane has holes capable of draining exudate" is fully supported by the specification and respectfully request reconsideration.

Appl. No. 09/365,677
Amdt. dated November 5, 2003
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 1632

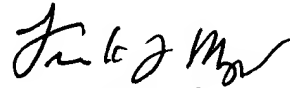
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



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